

# Connecticut Weekly AGRICULTURAL REPORT

Dannel P. Malloy, Governor  
Steven K. Reviczky, Commissioner  
Steve Jensen, Editor



Connecticut Department of Agriculture  
October 1, 2014



Norwich Public Schools food service manager Khanh Eckholm loads fresh produce into the schools' Farm-to-School van, purchased with the help of a grant from the Department of Agriculture.

## FARM VIABILITY GRANTS AVAILABLE TO HELP MUNICIPALITIES, NON-PROFITS SUPPORT AGRICULTURAL PROJECTS

*By Ron Olsen, Marketing and Inspection Representative*

The boxes of just-picked tomatoes, broccoli, kale and giant cauliflower that Norwich school food service manager Khanh Eckholm loaded into her van Monday afternoon at LoPresti Farm wouldn't be there for very long.

It's less than a 20-minute drive from the Preston farm to the Mahan School in Norwich, where within hours the vegetables would be cut, cooked and sealed as part of the town's CT Grown Farm-to-School program.

Some of the produce would be used the next day in the town's 11 schools, and most was to be frozen and stored for serving during the winter months.

"The kids do like it," Eckholm said, noting that "veggie sticks" and a kale-tomato salad are among the more popular items. "They know it's fresh and we make it pretty for them."

The van and other equipment used to process the produce were purchased with the help of a grant from the Department of Agriculture that was matched by the town.

The Farm Viability Grant program is aimed at helping municipalities and agricultural not-for-profit organizations create infrastructure to support and promote agriculture. Matching grants of up to \$49,999 are available, and applications for the next round of funding must be submitted by Nov. 14.

"I urge our city and town leaders and non-profits with food and agricultural missions to use this program and join us in the continued growth of agriculture in Connecticut," Agriculture Commissioner Steven K. Reviczky said. "If there are projects and programs being considered that can support farming and healthy food, we may be in a position to help get them accomplished."

Grants may be used for:

- Local capital projects that foster agricultural viability, including, but not limited to, processing facilities and farmers markets.
- Development and implementation of agriculturally friendly land use regulations and local farmland protection strategies that sustain and promote local agriculture.
- Creation of new marketing programs and venues through or in which a majority of products sold are grown in the state.

Funding is through the Community Investment Act and tied to a \$40 fee generated by the recording of documents on municipal land records. Grants are awarded on a competitive basis and matching funds must be supplied by the recipient. Grantees have one year to complete the funded project.

**(Continued on page 3)**

**MIDDLESEX LIVESTOCK AUCTION**

Middlefield, CT, Sept. 29, 2014

	Low	High
Bob Calves:		
45-60 lbs.	65.00	74.00
61-75 lbs.	135.00	140.00
76-90 lbs.	220.00	225.00
91-105 lbs.	230.00	240.00
106 lbs. & up	245.00	250.00
Farm Calves	260.00	280.00
Starter Calves	60.00	65.00
Veal Calves	120.00	190.00
Open Heifers	130.00	170.00
Beef Steers	149.00	157.00
Beef Heifers	127.50	142.00
Feeder Steers	160.00	185.00
Stock Bulls	170.00	175.00
Beef Bulls	155.00	160.00
Boars	n/a	n/a
Sows	n/a	n/a
Butcher Hogs	n/a	n/a
Goats each	50.00	285.00
Kid Goats	60.00	130.00
Canners	up to	126.00
Cutters	127.50	132.00
Utility Grade Cows	133.00	155.00
Replacement Heifers	n/a	n/a
Replacement Cows	n/a	n/a
Rabbits each	5.00	25.00
Chickens each	5.00	27.50
Ducks each	6.00	15.00
Feeder Pigs	50.00	25.00
Lambs	120.00	200.00
Sheep	57.50	250.00

**NEW HOLLAND, PA, HOG AUCTION**

Sold by actual weights; prices quoted by hundred wt.

	Low	High
48-52		
200-300 lbs	80.00	84.00
300-350 lbs	77.00	82.00
52-56		
200-300 lbs	80.00	84.00
300-400 lbs	n/a	
Sows, US1-3		
300-500 lbs	61.00	65.00
500-700 lbs	65.00	67.00
Boars		
650-800 lbs	39.00	41.50

**DIRECT TO CONSUMER****RETAIL BEEF****VERMONT GRASS FED (\$/LB)**

TENDERLOIN	15.00	22.00
BL RIBEYE	12.00	22.00
LONDON BROIL	7.00	12.00
FLANK STEAK	6.00	12.00
HAMBURGER	5.50	8.00
STEW	5.00	8.00
BRISKET	6.50	7.50
RIB ROAST	11.35	15.00

**WHOLESALE FRUITS & VEGETABLES  
NEW ENGLAND GROWN**

	LOW	HIGH
BLUEBERRIES 12/1PT,PULP	54.00	54.00
SQUASH,BUTTERCUT,1 1/9	16.00	20.00
BROCCOLI,14CT	16.00	20.00
BEAN GREEN,BU,HAND PICK	28.00	28.00
BEAN WAX, BU	28.00	28.00
BROCCOLI,CROWNS,20LB	16.00	22.00
BEET,12'S	15.00	18.00
ARUGULA,24'S	12.00	12.00
COLLARD	10.00	12.00
CORN,5DZ	10.00	12.00
CAULIFLOWER,9-12CT	16.00	20.00
DILL 24'S	14.00	14.00
EGGPLANT,1 1/9 BU	10.00	12.00
KALE,12'S	10.00	14.00
KOHLRABI 12'S	16.00	16.00
CABBAGE,GREEN,BOX	10.00	14.00
SQUASH,ACORN,1 1/9	12.00	14.00
PEPPER,CUBANELLE 11/9BU	10.00	12.00
PEPPER,JALAPENO,1/2BU	10.00	12.00
PEPPER,BELL,GREEN XL	10.00	14.00
PEPPERS SUNTAN ,1 1/9	7.00	8.00
RHUBARB 20 IB LGE	30.00	32.00
SQUASH,YELLOW,FCY,1/2BU	20.00	20.00
SQUASH,BUTTERNUT,1 1/9	12.00	15.00
SQUASH,GREEN,FCY,1/2BU	24.00	26.00
SQUASH,SPAGHETTI,1 1/9	16.00	20.00
SWISS CHARD,12'S	16.00	18.00
PARSNIPS,25LB	22.00	24.00
GRAPE,CONCORD ,8/1QT	26.00	26.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,96CT XFCY	28.00	32.00
APPLE,GALA,80CT,XFCY	32.00	34.00
APPLE,MCINTOSH,12/3	17.00	22.00
PEAR,BOSC,4/5BU	30.00	32.00
APPLE,CORT,BU	22.00	24.00
APPLE,HNYCRSP,100CT,FCY	32.00	32.00

**WHOLESALE SEASONAL NEW ENGLAND**

INDIAN CORN ,20/3'S	38.00	40.00
PUMPKIN,HWDEN,36"BIN,JBO	150.00	180.00
PUMPKIN,Pie,sm,36"bin,med	250.00	300.00
PUMPKIN,Pie,1 1/9bu	11.00	18.00
CORN STALKS	4.50	4.50
PMPKIN,MINI,1/2BU	13.00	16.00
GOURDS,SHLACKED,20LB	18.00	20.00
STRAW BALE	6.00	9.00

**WHOLESALE TOMATOES**

PLUM,25LB	12.00	15.00
CHERRY,12/1 PT	15.00	18.00
FIELD,25LB	10.00	25.00
HEIRLOOM,10 LB	20.00	26.00
GRAPE 12/1PT	16.00	18.00

**PA LIVESTOCK SUMMARY**

Average Dressing

	Low	High
SLAUGHTER COWS:		
breakers 75-80% lean	106.75	112.00
boners 80-85% lean	102.25	106.75
lean 85-90% lean	95.50	100.25
CALVES graded bull		
No 95-120lbs	279.25	322.00
No 2 95-120lbs	246.25	285.25
No 3 80-12 0lbs	172.00	223.00
SLAUGHTER HEIFERS		
HiCh/Prm2-3	163.00	164.00
Ch2-3	152.00	155.50
Sel2-3	146.50	149.75
SLAUGHTER STEERS.		
HiCh/prm3-4	159.00	163.50
Ch2-3	155.50	158.75
Sel2-3	151.00	154.00
SLAUGHTER HOLSTEINS		
HiCh/prm3-4	143.00	147.00
Ch2-3	139.00	142.75
Sel2-3	133.50	136.25
VEALERS	38.75	92.75
SLAUGHTER LAMBS: ch/pr 2-3		
50-70lbs	n/a	
60-80lb	242.00	267.00
80-110lbs	232.00	280.00
SLAUGHTER EWES: good 2-3		
100-110lbs	112.00	117.00
120-150lbs	85.00	102.00
Bucks		
140-160.lbs	150.00	185.00
200-250lbs	165.00	170.00
SLAUGHTER GOATS:Sel.1, by head, est.		
20-40lb	n/a	n/a
40-60lb	160.00	190.00
60-80lb	215.00	245.00
80-100lb	255.00	300.00
Nannies/Does: 60-110lbs	n/a	
120-210lbs	177.00	227.00
Bucks/Billies: 150-220lbs	250.00	350.00
150-170lbs	n/a	

**NORTHEAST EGG PRICES USDA**

Per doz. Grade A and Grade A white in cartons to retailers (volume buyers)

XTRA LARGE	1.28	1.32
LARGE	1.26	1.30
MEDIUM	1.15	1.19

**NEW ENGLAND SHELL EGGS**

Per doz. Grade A brown in carton delivered store door. (Range)

XTRA LARGE	1.61	1.71
LARGE	1.57	1.67
MEDIUM	1.25	1.35



## FOR SALE

1-R. Blumenthal & Donahue is now Connecticut's first independent NATIONWIDE Agri-Business Insurance Agency. Christmas tree growers, beekeepers, sheep breeders, organic farmers and all others, call us for all your insurance needs. 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com).

2-R. Farm, homeowner and commercial insurance—we do it all. Call Blumenthal & Donahue 800-554-8049 or [www.bludon.com](http://www.bludon.com).

3-R. Gallagher electric fencing for farms, horses, deer control, gardens, & beehives. Sonpal's Power Fence 860-491-2290.

4-R. Packaging for egg sales. New egg cartons, flats, egg cases, 30 doz and 15 doz. Polinsky Farm 860-376-2227.

5-R. Nationwide Agribusiness Insurance Program, endorsed by the CT Farm Bureau, save up to 23% on your farm insurance and get better protection. References available from satisfied farmers. Call Marci today at 203-444-6553.

112-R. 2011 Greenhouse 25 X 60, Furnace, Roth Oil Tank, Fans, Micro Gro, Poly Gal Ends Doors, roll up sides, Sodium lights, Benches, \$6,500. 203-233-9677. Photos available. [Martymonroe-gardens@gmail.com](mailto:Martymonroe-gardens@gmail.com).

117-R. Rough sawn hemlock and white pine lumber, great for fall time repairs and new construction. Also, year end inventory bargains on air dried oak and mixed hardwood lumber sold as units of approx.. 500 board feet each. We welcome your custom orders to be sawn. Hinman Lumber, Burlington, CT 860-673-9170.

120-R. Christmas Greens, wreaths and roping, many sizes and varieties. Samples gladly shown. We deliver. 203-457-1344.

122-R. Dual Dump Wagon Model 1200, works good, \$1,500. JD 2940 with turbo, \$10,500. JD 6310 4X4 with 740 loader, \$24,000. JD 530, \$5,000. New 11 ft Pequea Rake, \$6,500. NH 1465 haybine, \$8,500. Balers, Rake and Tettters. 203-530-4953.

123-R. Wrapped silage bales. 2014 second cutting alfalfa/grass mix. 4X5. \$65. 203-266-4067.

124-R. Yorkshire Cross Piglets-8 weeks. \$120 each. 860-668-2181 Suffield, CT.

125-R. Late Cut Hay. First Cut-pick up at barn, \$3.50 bale. 860-668-2181 Suffield, CT.

126-R. Agrimetal strawberry square bale mulcher for sale. New floor, belts, blades. \$2,900, Paul 860-350-3158.

127-R. For Sale: Wholesale pumpkins, corn stalks, gourds, hay. Mitchell Farm, Southbury. 203-264-1588, 203-731-1314 or [jam-south@aol.com](mailto:jam-south@aol.com)

128-R. Hydraulic Post Hole Digger with 2 augers, 6" and 9", will adapt to anything. Came off a Bobcat. \$550. 860-537-1974.

129-R. Pumpkins, Munchkins, Gourds – OH MY! High quality carving, sugar, & specialty pumpkin/squash sold by the bin or half bin. Butternut, Acorn, Delicata, Hubbard, & Carnival squash by bin or bushel. Prices F.O.B, delivery available. For more information: [info@thefarmwoodbury.com](mailto:info@thefarmwoodbury.com) 203-232-0494 [www.thefarmwoodbury.com](http://www.thefarmwoodbury.com)

131. Carving pumpkins. \$400.00/ton = pick-up truck load. NE CT 860-774-4363.

## MISCELLANEOUS

10-R. Farm/Land specializing in land, farms, and all types of Real Estate. Established Broker with a lifetime of agricultural experience and 40 years of finance. Representing both Buyers and Sellers. Call Clint Charter of Wallace-Tustin Realty (860) 644-5667.

130-R. Fitch Fibers - Bozrah, CT. Custom fiber processing. 860-222-3119. [www.fitchfibers.com](http://www.fitchfibers.com)



## DEADLINE FOR FARM VIABILITY GRANTS IS NOV. 14

(Continued from Page 1)

Since its inception in 2005, more than \$4 million in grants have been awarded to 173 recipients – funding over \$9 million in projects.

Norwich Public Schools had been trying for several years to establish a farm-to-school program, which was finally done last year with the help of a \$49,999 Farm Viability Grant. The money was used to modify an underused kitchen at the Mahan elementary school into a processing area for the produce bought from area farmers.

The Dept. of Agriculture and Food Corp. Connecticut helped connect the school system with three local farms: Our Acres in Lebanon, Provider Farm in Salem and LoPresti's in Preston.

In addition to the "Veggie Van" – which made an appearance this spring in the Norwich St. Patrick's Day Parade – the funding helped purchase processing equipment including a steamer, a quick chiller, a vacuum sealer and a two-door freezer to cook and store any produce not served fresh. The food is stored at Mahan, from which weekly orders from the other schools in town are distributed.

Each day, a CT Grown sign at the school's serving line displays the name of the farms that provided that day's produce.

Paul LoPresti, who with his brother Joe runs the Preston farm, said they enjoy knowing that their vegetables are going to be enjoyed by students, some of whom likely do not get fresh produce on a regular basis at home.

"It's great that the grant money helped them start coming to us," Paul said as he packed the season's last harvest of cauliflower into boxes for Eckholm to take. "We try to make sure they get our best stuff."

Two other success stories from the last round of Farm Viability Grants include projects by the Eastern CT Resource Conservation & Development Area (RC&D) based in Tolland and Brass City Harvest in Waterbury.

Brass City Harvest is a non-profit agricultural and human services organization in Waterbury that has worked to make Connecticut Grown produce available to the surrounding urban population through managing greenhouses, community gardens, urban farming, and aquaculture/aquaponics operations.

Its \$49,741 Farm Viability Grant helped them create a new urban farm on 1.33 acres on North Main Street called North Farm, on which they built 80 large raised planting beds.

Part of the grant helped purchase a refrigerated van that supports its flourishing Mobile Market program that offers CT Grown food to city residents that find it difficult to travel to Farmers Markets or local farm stands.

The grant also enabled them to promote sales of CT Grown products in the city through ads, social media and other outreach, including ads taken out in the Waterbury Republican-American newspaper and its Summer Lifestyles and Fall Lifestyles insert magazines.

Ads were also run on the local WATR news radio station several times a day from June through September.

The grant gave them the ability to create a nutrition outreach and healthy cooking class for households participating in the WIC and SNAP assistance programs. It also helped create a 16-week course at Waterbury High School that included a weekly nutrition lesson followed by a healthy cooking class designed to expose students to cooking fresh fruits and vegetables.

Produce, meat, eggs and dairy products were purchased from local growers, totaling more than \$33,000 bought from 14 local farmers.

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## DEADLINE FOR FARM VIABILITY GRANTS IS NOV. 14 (Continued from Page 3)

The Eastern CT Resource Conservation & Development Area (RC&D) project expanded its AGvocate program - that helps municipalities set up Agriculture Commissions or Committees - to areas outside of its traditional territory in Northeast Connecticut.

The program initially drafted and passed ordinances establishing Agriculture Commissions in six towns, and collaborated in partnerships with ten towns working on a variety of agriculture-related issues such as developing a Plan of Conservation and Development and a Right to Farm ordinance.

Farm Viability grant funding was used to develop a "Train the Trainer" curriculum that widened the reach of the AGvocate program. That included establishing a focus group of experts to write the curriculum and create a pool of potential speakers to address various topics.

More than 45 participants attended a workshop designed to help producers, municipal leaders and citizens interested in learning ways that communities can support new and beginning farmers.

The first-ever "Train the Trainer" workshop in East Hartford was attended by 60 participants from throughout the state.

The target audience was producers interested in becoming more active in local regulation and policy, along with town planners, land-use and zoning officials.

The primary method of ongoing outreach and information sharing for the AGvocate program is through email blasts, using Constant Contact as a distribution and formatting tool.

In addition, an AGvocate list was established through the University of Connecticut email listserv network, providing notifications of events and programs.

That has helped to spread the importance of agriculture to communities and to help them commit resources to punctuate the importance of farming and agriculture to their residents.

**For more information on the Farm Viability Grant program, please call 860-713-2503 or visit our website at [CTGrown.gov](http://CTGrown.gov)**



Above, Paul LoPresti prepares a cauliflower grown at his Preston farm (below) that will be served as part of the Norwich schools' Farm-to-School program.



**Advertising Rates:** Fifteen or fewer words: \$3.75 per insertion. More than 15 words: 25 cents per word per insertion. Ads must be related to agriculture in Connecticut and are accepted on a first-come, first-served basis. Payment must be received by noon on Friday before publication the following Wednesday. Make check or money order payable to the Connecticut Dept. of Agriculture, and mail copy and remittance to the department at 165 Capitol Avenue, Hartford, CT 06106. For more information contact Jane.Slupecki@ct.gov or call 860-713-2588.

POSTMASTER: Send address changes to the Connecticut Department of Agriculture, 165 Capitol Ave., Hartford, CT 06106.  
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### CONNECTICUT DEPARTMENT OF AGRICULTURE [www.CTGrown.gov](http://www.CTGrown.gov) 860-713-2500

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